

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING AND PUBLIC COMMENT

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) seek written and oral comments from interested persons on the development of a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for Lewis Creek in Augusta County and the City of Staunton. This stream was first listed on the 1996 303(d) TMDL Priority List and Report as impaired due to violations of the State's General Standard (benthic) for aquatic life. This impairment extend from just south of Staunton (river mile 9.55) to the confluence with the Middle River for a total of 9.55 miles.

Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act and §62.1-44.19:7.C of the Code of Virginia require DEQ to develop TMDLs for pollutants responsible for each impaired water contained in Virginia's 303(d) TMDL Priority List and Report.

The first public meeting on the development of the benthic TMDL will be held on **Monday, January 24, 2005, 7:00 p.m.** at the Staunton City Council Chambers, Staunton City Hall, 116 W. Beverley St., Staunton, VA 24402.

The public comment period for this first public meeting will end on February 24, 2005. Written comments should include the name, address, and telephone number of the person submitting the comments and should be sent to Robert Brent, Department of Environmental Quality, 4411 Early Road, PO Box 3000, Harrisonburg, VA 22801, telephone (540) 574-7848, fax (540) 574-7878, or e-mail rbrent@deq.virginia.gov.